

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ADDIS 02829 051534Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 OC-06 CCO-00 A-01 OPR-02 SY-05

DRC-01 PER-01 MMO-01 OCL-00 FBO-02 SCS-03 SCA-01

FS-01 ARA-06 CPR-01 VO-03 /102 W

-----060748Z 017773 /13

R 051430Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3848

INFO JCS

OSD

USCINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

NAVCOMSTA NEA MAKRI

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 2829

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AEMR, ET

SUBJ: CLOSEOUT OF USG FACILITIES IN ASMARA; FINAL REPORT

REF: ATHENS 4072

1. REFTEL AGREES ENTIRELY WITH OUR RECOLLECTION OF UNFOLDING
EVENTS IN ASMARA DURING WITHDRAWAL. WE WISH ADD ONLY A
COMMENT OR TWO BY WAY OF FOOTNOTES.

A. PARA 16 (C). ABRUPT CHANGES IN EPMG ATTITUDES ALMOST
CERTAINLY CAME ABOUT AS RESULT OF EPMG DECISION-MAKING PROCESS
(THEY OCCURRED HERE, TOO, IF SOMEWHAT LESS DRAMATICALLY).
INSOFAR AS ETHIOPIAN AUTHORITIES IN ASMARA WERE CONCERNED,
SHOTS WERE BEING CALLED FROM ADDIS AND IT WAS CLEAR THAT UNTIL
THEY WERE INSTRUCTED BY THE ETHIOPINA "COMMISSION" THAT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ADDIS 02829 051534Z

WAS SET UP IN MOFA, THEY WERE NOT GOING TO DO ANYTHING
THAT COULD POSSIBLY BE CONSTRUED AS A MISSTEP BY THEIR
OWN PEOPLE (AGAIN, SAME WAS TRUE HERE). INTERNAL EPMG
COMMUNICATIONS WERE ALWAYS PROBLEM, BUT ONCE WORD FROM
"COMMISSION" FINALLY GOT THROUGH, PROBLEMS EASED.

B. PARA 16 (B). AGREE WITH NEED FOR ONE COMMAND

ALONE TO BE SOLE COMMUNICATOR, BUT PROBLEM WAS NOT MAC'S PLANS. AS BEST WE COULD TELL, MAC WAS READY FOR ANYTHING. PROBLEM WAS CONFLICTING SIGNALS THEY WERE GETTING FROM MILITARY COMMANDS IN EUROPE.

C. PARA 16 (C). AAGREE WITH DESIRABILITY OF DESIGNATING AN OFFICER IN EMBASSY TO SCREEN AND FORWARD TRAFFIC. THIS, HOWEVER, WAS IN FACT DONE. CHARGE OR, IN HIS ABSENCE, ACTING POLCOUNS DID IT. WE FORWARDED WHATEVER TRAFFIC WE THOUGHT WAS IMMEDIATELY GERMANE TO THE WITHDRAWAL AND KEPT CONGEN INFORMED OF OUR OWN EFFORTS BY BOTH TELEGRAM AND TELEPHONE. INFO SUCH AS EFFORTS BY TANZANIANS AND KENYANS TO INTERCEDE ON OUR BEHALF WOULD HAVE NO DOUBT BEEN INTERESTING TO ASMARA, BUT IN OUR JUDGMENT WOULD NOT HAVE CONTRIBUTED MUCH TO WHAT HAD TO BE DONE THERE. IF WE ERRED ON SIDE OF KEEPING VOLUME OF TRAFFIC DOWN, MEA CULPA.

D. (PARA 16 (H)). RE GUIDANCE FROM EMBASSY ADMIN SECTION RE PRIORITIES FOR REMOVAL OF USG PROPERTY, WE THOUGHT ASMARA WAS DOING VERY WELL ON ITS OWN WITHOUT ADDITIONAL ADVICE FROM US AND THEREFORE REFRAINED FROM OFFERING IT. FURTHER, EXCEPT FOR OBVIOUS BROAD CATEGORIES OF PROPERTY WHICH ASMARA ITSELF IDENTIFIED QUICKLY, WE WERE NOT IN A POSITION TO MAKE SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS. HAD THERE BEEN SOME OBVIOUS OMISSIONS, WE WOULD HAVE CHIMED IN, BUT IN PRINCIPLE, WE THINK DECISIONS OF THIS KIND IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD REST PRIMARILY WITH THOSE PERSONNEL ON SPOT. CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ADDIS 02829 051534Z

TIENKEN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 05-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ADDIS02829
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770159-0434
Format: TEL
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770592/aaaadbgl.tel
Line Count: 98
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 24388c9a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 ATHENS 4072
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2636578
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CLOSEOUT OF USG FACILITIES IN ASMARA; FINAL REPORT
TAGS: AEMR, ET
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/24388c9a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009